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FOUR MILITANTS KILLED IN J&K

Four militants from LeT and al-Badr outfits, including those involved in the killing of an off-duty Territorial Army soldier in Anantnag on Friday, were gunned down on Sunday in two encounters with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. With this, the death toll in the encounters that began on Saturday has climbed to five as one militant was killed in the initial exchange of fire.

Sanjeevini to your Life, Covid – 19 Vaccine
VACCINATION MISSION
April 11th – 14th, 2021
If you are above 45 years, get yourself vaccinated voluntarily for the safety of your health.
Support to build COVID-19 Free Society
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To register for the COVID-19 vaccine visit www.cowin.gov.in
If you have fever, cold, or any COVID-19 like symptoms, call the Apthamitra Helpline 14410
Karnataka Information
Department of Information and Public Relations

K'taka's 2nd wave to peak in May

Technical panel wants govt to be vigilant along borders, says Health Minister Dr Sudhakar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA may see a peak in Covid-19 cases by May first week and slowdown by May-end, said Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar after holding a meeting with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Sunday.

He cautioned, "We must be vigilant till the end of May. If there is a surge in cases, our health infrastructure will be overburdened. TAC experts have suggested that we should be vigilant along borders and thoroughly test incoming travellers from high caseload states. TAC has been directed to come up with a report which will be submitted to Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa. Further measures will be taken after discussions with the Chief Minister."

He pointed out that suggestions that will impact economic activities will not be considered. "But experts suggested that we should curb large gatherings and crowds which lead to a spread in infections," he said.

With the increase in cases, private hospitals have extended their support to the government, he said. "We were among the first in the country to start tele-ICU and private hospitals too used it. We need to further strengthen the system."

STATEWIDE

	APRIL 10	APRIL 11
Fresh cases	6,955	10,250
Recoveries	3,350	2,638
Deaths	36	40

10K NEW CASES, STATE FEELS THE HEAT

Karnataka on Sunday logged a massive 10,250 Covid cases in a single day. Once again, Bengaluru Urban district saw the most positives at 7,584 cases. This spike has also pushed up the state's single-day positivity rate to 7.72%. While 40 deaths were added to the toll, 2,638 patients recovered during the day. **P3**

The state has received 72 lakh doses of vaccine. Around 61 lakh doses have been administered, of which 53 per cent were to women beneficiaries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has lauded Karnataka's efforts in containing the second wave, he added.

"Prime Minister Modi spoke to CM Yediyurappa and lauded the state's efforts. He suggested that we should focus on micro-containment zones. We will take measures accordingly. I will make surprise visits to hospitals and vaccination centres. Irregularities and improper facilities won't be tolerated. If people are aware and cooperate, there is no need for a lockdown or measures to curb economic activities," he added. **MORE STORIES: P3**

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar launches Lasika Mahotsava vaccination drive at AB Vajpayee Medical College and Research Institute in Bengaluru on Sunday.

Remdesivir export banned

Maha to augment infra

CM Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday discussed setting up of oxygen plants, upgrading the number of beds, besides availability of Remdesivir injections in a meeting with the members of Covid task force and set April 14 as deadline to assess the need for lockdown

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

ABOUT 27 lakh took the jab on the first day of the four-day special Covid *Tika Utsav* (vaccination fest) that began on Sunday with a pep talk from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On Saturday, 35.2 lakh beneficiaries had taken the shot. Sundays normally have less footfalls (about 16 lakh). "But on the first day of *Tika Utsav*, more than 27 lakh vaccine doses were administered till 8 pm," the Union Health Ministry said. Many workplace vaccination centres, too, are operational and the ones in the private sector functioned on Sunday, the ministry added.

Modi sought maximum participation of beneficiaries during the drive. "Anyone eligible for the vaccine should get the jab, and for this the society and administration have to make full efforts," he said, and pitched for "zero vaccine wastage".

In a related development, India banned with immediate effect the export of Remdesivir that is administered to treat severe Covid-positive cases. All domestic manufacturers of Remdesivir were advised to display details of their stockists and distributors on their website, besides ensuring easy access of the drug.

'New policy to create ₹25-30K cr investment'

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE new industrial policy for Jammu and Kashmir that was announced in January last would generate an investment of ₹25,000 crore to ₹30,000 crore over the next two years and create as many as five lakh jobs, Lieutenant Governor **Manoj Sinha** told this newspaper on Sunday.

Although a man of few words as he believes in his work doing the talking, the Lt Governor revealed that 25,000 vacant posts in government departments had been advertised and the recruitment process would be transparent.

Under a grey sky at Raj Bhawan's guest lounge that overlooks the famed Dal Lake and the invigorating Tulip garden, Sinha described the ₹28,400 crore outlay for the new policy as a massive initiative to usher industrial revolution in Jammu and Kashmir.

Asked about the response of investors, he said, "We are getting good response. In fact, every day, we get calls from 4-5 investors exploring possibilities to set up units in J&K."

After the hollowing out of Article 370 and 35A by the Centre on August 5, 2019, the J&K government had planned to hold its first Global Investors Summit in October that year, but it could not be held due to various reasons. That did not distract Sinha, who took over as second Lt Governor on August 5 last year, as he quickly picked up the threads to govern the arguably toughest administrative unit in the country.

His result-oriented style of functioning appears to be drawing investors.

"We will give capital investment incentives. Those investing in Category A get 30% incentive while those in Category B get 50%," Sinha said. To ensure that incentives are properly utilised to set up industrial units, "our government will give them incentives only on GST billing," Sinha added.

The GST-linked initiative would amount to 300% of the eligible value of actual investment made in plant and machinery or building construction for 10 years. The J&K government has identified 24,000 kanals of land in different districts to set up industrial estates. It is, however, yet to be decided whether the land would be on lease or would the investors get proprietary rights. **P10**

Deshmukh's staff grilled in extortion case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

THE CBI on Sunday questioned two personal staffers of former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh in connection with the allegations of corruption leveled against him by former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh.

Deshmukh's PA Kundan Shinde and personal secretary Sanjeev Palande appeared before the CBI in the ongoing inquiry. Former Mumbai police commissioner Parambir Singh, in his letter, had claimed that Palande was present when Deshmukh had allegedly asked Sachin Waze to collect ₹100 crore a month from various restaurants in Mumbai. **P10**

Mamata slams EC, Shah mocks at elective grief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ North Dinajpur & Kolkata

A day after the Election Commission imposed a 72-hour bar on politicians from entering Cooch Behar, where four persons died in CISF firing at a polling booth, Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee on Sunday claimed the unprecedented ban was meant to prevent her from meeting the relatives of the deceased and sharing their grief.

Describing the shooting as genocide, Mamata sought to mock the EC's Model Code of Conduct, saying it was actually "Modi Code of Conduct".

Mamata's barbs drew a sharp response from Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who blamed her provocative speeches, exhorting women to gherao Central forces, for the firing.

Leading a rally at Basirhat in North 24 Parganas district, Shah questioned why Mamata was silent on the fifth death. A first-time voter, Ananda Barman, was also shot dead on Saturday in the same area. "She has not shed a single tear for Barman just because he belonged to Rajbangshi community, which does not favour the TMC," Shah said.

LuLu chief Yussuf Ali survives chopper crash

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kochi

NRI businessman and LuLu Group chairman Yusuff Ali M A, his wife and four others had a miraculous escape after the chopper they were travelling in belly-landed in a swamp at Panangad near here.

All six passengers, including two pilots, were admitted to a private hospital in Kumbalam near here with minor injuries. The helicopter was supposed to land at the Kufos (Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies) campus ground at Panangad. However, it was forced to land at the swamp near the highway due to some technical issues around 9 am. Residents in the area said there was rain and strong wind at the time of the incident. **CONTINUED ON: P5**

WITH THIS ISSUE THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID) AND 4 OF CITY EXPRESS

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